

IN THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the subject application:

--1 - 61. (Cancelled)

62. (Previously Presented) A device for multiplexing samples from a plurality of ion sources, said device comprising:

a first capillary section having a first channel therethrough, said first section having entrance and exit ends, said entrance end of said first section including an orifice for receiving ions from at least one of a plurality of ion sources; and

a second capillary section having a second channel therethrough, said second section having entrance and exit ends;

wherein said first section is removably connected to said second section such that said exit end of said first section is coaxially aligned with said entrance end of said second section, and wherein said entrance end of said first section is movable between each of said ion sources.

63. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 62, wherein at least one of said ion sources is selected from the group consisting of electrosprayers, nanosprayers, microsprayers and pneumatic sprayers.

64. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 63, wherein said ion sources are arranged in an array.

65. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 64, wherein said array is planar.

66. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 64, wherein said array is cylindrical.

67. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 62, wherein said entrance end of said first section is movable in a planar direction.

68. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 62, wherein said entrance end of said first section is movable in a cylindrical direction.

69. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 62, wherein said first section is connected to said second section via a substantially airtight union.

70. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 62, wherein said first section is positioned to transport said received ions into a first vacuum region of a mass analyzer.

71. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 70, wherein said exit end of said second section is positioned in said first vacuum region.

72. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 75, wherein said exit end of said second section is positioned in a second vacuum region maintained at a lower pressure than said first vacuum region.

73. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 62, further comprising a sampling device aligned with said ion source, wherein said sampling device has at least one aperture.

74. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 73, wherein said sampling device includes at least one aperture for accepting said entrance end of said first section.

75. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 73, wherein said first section is moveable with said sampling device.

76. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 73, wherein said device further comprises a motor for controlling movement of said sampling device, and wherein said device further comprises a connecting rod for connecting said motor to said sampling device.

77. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 73, wherein said sampling device is moveable such that ions from each of said ion sources may be introduced into said entrance end of said first section.

78. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 62, wherein said first section is

composed of a rigid material.

79. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 62, wherein said first section is composed of a flexible material.

80. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 62, wherein said device sequentially accepts said ions from said plurality of ion production devices.

81. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 62, wherein an electric potential is established between said first section and at least one of said ion sources to facilitate transportation of ions from said ion source through said aperture into said first section.

82. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 62, wherein said entrance end of said first section is movably mounted within an aperture in a sampling device.

83. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 82, further comprising a means for detecting alignment of said aperture and at least one of said ion sources.

84. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 83, wherein said means for detecting comprises a light emitting diode (LED) and a photodiode.

85-93. (Cancelled)--

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